BENGALURU, TUESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2022 www.Bangaloremirror.com 12 Pages PRICE ₹3

Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 29 | Min 18 | Humidity 63% Partly cloudy. Misty morning Sensex 61,308 | Nifty 18,308 | Gold 47,927 | Silver 61,917 | Dollar 74.29 | Euro 84.70 | GBP 101.42

THIRD WAVE MAY PEAK BY JANUARY 25: EXPERTS

PAGE 2

BM UPGRADE TO AN ELECTRIC VEHICLE
TOWARDS A GREEN BENGALURU

ElectriCITY
Bangalore Mirror will help you make the cleaner and greener shift. With our weekly electric vehicle wrap we want you to be a part of the city's stride to the mode of the future

PAGE 7

Citizens point to 'undemocratic decisions', 'lack of public consultation' on suburban rail project, delay of critical line linking city and airport

TRAIN OFF THOUGHT

Plan was to lay City-Devanahalli line by 2023

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The Rail Infrastructure Development Company (Karnataka) Limited (K-RIDE), tasked with the completion of the KSR Bengaluru City-Devanahalli corridor under the Bengaluru Suburban Rail project by 2023, is unlikely to meet the deadline.

In October 2020, the Union government cleared the much-delayed Bengaluru Suburban Rail project with four corridors at a sanction cost of Rs 15,767 crore.

The Centre had asked the government of Karnataka to expedite completion of one of the corridors — KSR Bengaluru City-Devanahalli, within three years — while giving six years time for the completion of the other three corridors.

However, none of the corridors, including the expedited one, have seen the light of day yet. Moreover, a decision has been taken to work on all four corridors simultaneously, without any priority.

According to a senior K-RIDE official, the KSR Bengaluru City-Devanahalli corridor faced land acquisition issues, which might delay the project further.

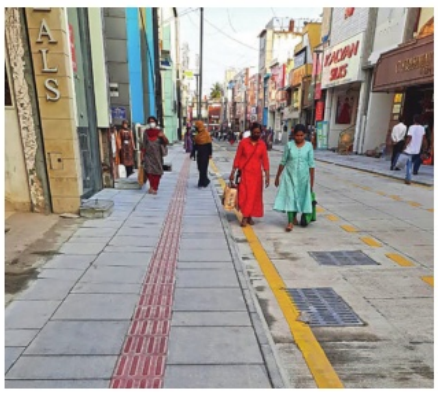
"Corridor ran into complexity due to land acquisition as it is planned in a busy area. There might be a slight spillover of a year over the designated three years' time frame.. – K-RIDE

"This corridor ran into some complexity due to land acquisition as it is planned in a very busy area. There might be a slight spillover of a year over the designated three years' time frame. However, we are committed to complete the entire project in six years."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 >>

Back from a commercial break

At long last, commercial street is ready to welcome shoppers again, with stretch white-topped



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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Commercial street works that faced major criticism of late for delay and shoddy design, finally got a clean makeover as the Bengaluru Smart City Limited (BSCL) finished white-topping the 550-m stretch.

A test ride by Bangalore Mirror on Monday showed the street is yet to open up for parking. With barricades still at the entrance, one had to find parking at nearby Commercial Plaza or Westside. While a sweeping machine and a JCB were seen clearing debris, the street wore a neat look — shoppers could walk carefree again at long last.

During the last week of December, when BM visited the spot, the carriageway was under construction, with white-topping underway. Footpaths were not completed and people had to use wooden plywood planks to move about.

On Monday, however, the entire road was cleaned as white-topping was completed with granite slabs laid on the footpaths. The contractors have a five-year term for maintenance of the stretch, we are told.

The street was painted with yellow lines on either side of the carriageway to facilitate parking and lane discipline. The carriageway appears narrower now and footpaths wider; this could be problematic

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 >>

3 THINGS TO DO

01 Shopping therapy

Indulge yourself with this 'Sankranti Special Madhurya Online Sale' and give your wardrobe and home a makeover. Products include apparel (men's wear, ladies' wear and kids' wear) stoles, dupattas in various materials including chiffon, cotton and silk, jewellery of all kinds including silver, silk and Kanchi cotton saris, home décor products, Channapatna toys, pooja essentials and brass items. The proceeds will help girls' education in several non-profit schools across India.
Where: madhurya.com
When: Till Jan 31
Contact: 7019138680/ 9886051512

02 Art lovers unite

For the first time in the history of Bengaluru, an international printing press has been organised by the Central Conservatory Academy. The exhibition, which is an important medium of fine art, showcases works from 14 countries including India, Germany, Russia, the Netherlands, Mexico, Bangladesh, the US, France, Argentina, Croatia, Israel, Peru, and Nepal. It features 28 international collections, 33 invited artists, and 121 nationally recognized works. The exhibition of this very rare artwork is a must-see for artists and art lovers.

Where: Karnataka Chitrakala Parishath, Kumara Krupa Road
When: Till Jan 23
Contact: 9845059660

03 It's Organised Madness

Organised Madness is a five-piece band which mainly holds its roots in English electronic/ alternative rock. The band has performed numerous gigs over the years, and you can now watch them live. Join in with your gang for a great evening and let your hair down. Please note: All social distancing norms have to be strictly followed.

Where: Hard Rock Café, Ashok Nagar
When: Jan 20, 7pm onwards
Tickets: Free, bookmyshow.com

Third wave might peak by January 25: Experts

Current guidelines to continue until further notice; Section 144 in city till Jan-end

KAUSHIK JN

An inoculation drive in full flow as health workers administer shots to eligible citizens

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With Covid cases seeing a decline in Mumbai and Delhi, experts feel that the state may see a peak by January 25 and then a gradual decline.

Revenue Minister R Ashoka said that a decision on weekend curfew will be taken at a meeting with ministers on Friday. Ashoka said: "Health experts are predicting that the Covid graph in the state is heading towards the peak. The peak may reach by January 25. So, by Friday, we will get a clearer picture. Till then, the current set of guidelines will continue. Currently, there is a debate going on the imposition of weekend curfew. As of now, the night curfew will continue."

Regarding the petition by hotel staff, Ashoka said, "We cannot take the risk of 6.5 crore people because one sector is affected. Every day, we are facing comments from various sectors. We will go by what our experts, centre and world health organisations. Whatever decision we will take, we will consider the larger interest of the public."

Focus on tele-triaging: CM

During the meeting, Bommai instructed the officials to focus more on OPDs in Bengaluru and deploy more personnel. CM suggested the officers monitor people getting admitted for triaging. "Increase home-isolation calls. The comorbidity cases should be contacted at least once in a day and enquire about their health to instil a sense of confidence in them via tele-triaging and each of the home-isolated patients should be contacted three to four times during the isolation phase. Precautionary measures to be taken to ensure that it does not spread to other members of the family. Medicinal kits should be effectively delivered to home-isolated cases. Negative attitudes of the people should be removed by involving voluntary service organisations. Local doctors should be involved for consultation.

"Infected children, especially in rural areas should get top priority, parents should be counselled and medical kits should be distributed. Separate medical kits should be prepared for children. Instructions have been issued to get Oxygen plants ready for use any time along with necessary personnel and fuel. Hospitals have been asked to arrange generators and medicines should be procured immediately and they should be reached to hospitals well in time," Bommai said.

Meanwhile, Bengaluru police commissioner Kamal Pant on Monday ordered banning of rallies, demonstrations and protests and the congregation of more than 200 people in open places and 100 people in closed places during marriages till January-end under Section 144 (1) of the CrPC. Pant himself tested positive for Covid-19 on Monday. His condition is stable and presently he is under home isolation.

Shops to monitor sale of Covid kits

With rampant use of home-testing kits, the State Government has asked the distributors and medical shops to keep a tab on the patients who buy these kits, counsel them and also take down the details so that it gives a clear picture to the officials as to how many had tested positive.

It's a yay for molnupiravir, say doctors

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Oral drug molnupiravir which was recently approved by the Drug Controller General of India (DCGI) has benefitted patients, especially those in the high-risk categories, say doctors.

Recently, ICMR had stated that it could affect an unborn child's development; however, the health professionals who started using the drug pointed out that they have been giving it to people above 60 and are at high risk with diabetes, kidney problems, obesity, hyper tension, or other severe comorbidities.

The drug should be given orally within three days of symptom onset, which is 800 mg twice a day for a period of five days. Dr Raghu J, HOD & Senior Consultant, Internal Medicine and Infectious Specialist at Sakra World Hospital, Bengaluru, said: "We have used this medication on about 5-6 patients and there has been a positive effect on the patients.

Molnupiravir is suitable for mild symptoms

"These medications should not be used for treating pregnant ladies and lactating mothers. Also, this should be used with utmost care among the women of reproductive age group."

Dr Chinnadurai R, Lead Consultant, Department of Critical Care, Aster RV Hospital, pointed out that they have used the drug on 10-12 patients in the last two weeks. "The drug is prescribed for patients who have mild symptoms. Those who need hospital admission receive Remdesivir instead of molnupiravir," said Dr Chinnadurai.

One course of molnupiravir is said to cost anywhere around Rs 1,800-1,900. Dr Ranganath Ramanjaneya, Consultant Pulmonologist Head, Department of Pulmonary Medicine, Narayana Health City, said: "The patients didn't require hospitalisation. Currently for patients who are at a higher risk, we have three treatment options for this, the molnupiravir, remdesivir, and the antibody cocktail drug."

Hospital in soup following manual scavenging plaint

A sanitation worker was allegedly sacked for refusing to enter manhole

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Medical director and other office bearers of the management of a reputed mission hospital in Indiranagar have been booked under stringent sections of the Prohibition of Employment of Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act along with sections of Prevention of SC and the ST (Atrocities) Act for allegedly having few of their staff get down into sewerage manholes to clear its blocks and clean it up. However, the hospital management denied the allegations.

According to sources, they were not only made to work in manholes on the hospital premises, but also going down into manholes on the main road where the hospital's sanitary lines connected to the main road's sanitary chambers for cleaning its blocks.

An officer from the office of the Assistant Director, Social Welfare Office, TC Palya Main Road in KR Puram, registered an FIR with the Indiranagar police on Saturday against Chinmaya Mission Hospital's (CMH's) medical director Dr Sudheer and other office bearers including an administrator who are identified as Shankar Ganesh, Issac, Chiranjeevi, and Basavaraj, respectively.

Complainant Madhusudhan KN (47) told Bangalore Mirror that the Office of Assistant Director Social Welfare Department received a complaint petition from the Safai Karmachari Andolan's local office in Bengaluru which the department deemed criminal prosecution should ensue.

However, a few members of Chinmaya Mission Hospital's Employees' Union/Association told this newspaper that the hospital management is in the process of dismantling the hospital's registered Employees' Union and have also suspended a few union heads recently for not towing their lines.

According to Dhananjay, who was the joint secretary of the CMH Employees' Union, one of the victims, Venkatesh R, who worked as a sanitary cleaning staff at the hospital since 13 years, alleged that he was being forced to go down into sewerage manholes to clear the blocks since April 2010 until 10 months ago when he was terminated from his service for "refusing" to get down into a manhole.

A sanitation worker at Chinmaya Mission Hospital photographed while cleaning sewage inside a manhole

Before he was sacked, Venkatesh was allegedly instructed by his in-charge to go consume some liquor and even offered him some money, so that he doesn't feel disgusted while he gets down into the manhole to clear its blocks. After Venkatesh told his in-charge that it was the last time he was going down the manholes, the latter allegedly started accusing him of coming to work drunk and even threatened to fire him. Venkatesh approached the union members, along with a few activists of the Safai Karmachari Andolan and reported the matter. "It was not only Venkatesh, but also other cleaning staff like one Seena aka Srinivas and Dheivadheenam, who were threatened of job termination if they refused to work inside the manholes," Dhananjay told Bangalore Mirror.

Dhananjay even collected video footage of hospital staff getting down into the manholes for clearing the blocks with their uniforms, face-shields, masks and gloves.

"At one instance, even BBMP officials who noticed hospital staff getting down into manholes, warned the hospital management, saying that not only the in-charge of the housekeeping staff, but also the head of the institution will be culpable for criminal proceedings. "However, all these warnings fell on deaf ears of hospital management," Dhananjay said.

Venkatesh had approached the Safai Karmachari Andolan and the Karnataka Samatha Sanika Dala (KSSD). KSSD president Channakrishnappa and women's president Kamalamma, who is also a member of the movement of Prohibition of Manual Scavenging, shot a petition to the Assistant Director's Office of the Social Welfare Department.

> **Venkatesh was discharged from services about nine months ago since he was found coming drunk to work** –Dhananjay, CMH employees' union

Human rights activist Bezwada Wilson told Bangalore Mirror, "Mission hospitals like Chinmaya should not indulge in any such malpractices, but set an example for other institutions," Bezwada Wilson told Bangalore Mirror.

Meanwhile, rubbishing the allegations, Dr Sudhir, medical director of CMH, told Bangalore Mirror: "Venkatesh was working as a sanitary worker with the housekeeping department and was discharged from services about nine months ago since he was found coming drunk to work on multiple occasions. He coming to work in an inebriated state was measured with an alcohometer. He had also accepted the charges, but was discharged from services."

Firm dupes aspirants over MNC jobs

Candidates told to visit HR team of IBM carrying 'offer letters' issued to them

The Human Resource manager of IBM company filed a cheating complaint against a job consultancy firm after a few job aspirants walked into their office with a "fake" job offer letter, misusing the company's name.

The incident came to light on Wednesday after the victims walked into the office located in Manyata Tech Park with the job offer letter to meet the HR team. Abhijit Roy, HR Manager of IBM, has filed a complaint with the Sampigehalli police against the accused, Sanjeev GG, Deepak Singh and others.

Inquiry revealed that the accused, Sanjeev GG, Deepak Singh along with others, who were running a consultancy firm under the banner East Recruit India Private Limited, offered jobs in IBM company and issued fake job offer letters, misusing the company logo and name. In his complaint to the police, Roy stated that the accused even collected Rs 75,000 from job aspirant Arpitha GP, Rs 15,000 from Shwetha KS, and Rs 25,000 from B Rani, while issuing a job letter in December and asked them to report to duty on January 13 and meet HR Manager MR Harish. However, there was no manager in IBM by the name of Harish. The accused have not only cheated the job aspirants but were also spoiling the name of the company, he said.

> **The police are trying to trace the accused and investigations are on**

A senior police officer said that based on the details of contact number and bank account details submitted by the complainant, the police are trying to trace the accused. The police are yet to take statements from the victims.

Further investigations are underway.

FAKE NEWS BUSTER MIRROR

ANTIBODIES ARE NOT NATURAL VACCINE

THE CLAIMS

A doctor recently made a statement claiming that antibodies from previous covid infections help as a natural vaccine in unvaccinated people. He cited his example, stating that although he hasn't been vaccinated, his antibodies developed after he was infected with covid is shielding him against the virus from reinfecting again.

SO, WHAT'S THE TRUTH?

Experts have labelled the doctor's statement to be "misleading" and said that he was instead referring to a study that claimed that transmission protection only lasted up to 12 weeks. While this study he is referring to states that after 12 weeks a person who has been double vaccinated with a global vaccine is only 2 per cent less likely to transmit the delta variant of the virus than an unvaccinated person, it also found that someone double vaccinated with another vaccine had a 24 per cent lower risk of infecting others after 12 weeks.

BUST FAKE NEWS WITH MIRROR

9591233247

Let's separate the news from the noise, Bengaluru. Tell us about that incredible-sounding story/news/alert that you've received on WhatsApp or social media and Bangalore Mirror researchers and editors will see if it checks out. If it doesn't, we'll call it out

TOPCOMMENTS

All is not fine

Commenting on our story -- Fine ploy on the silent streets -- narrating how motorists allege that cops are flagging them and collecting fines from them while making some clear pendings bills, a reader has supported the measures taken by the administration and the police officers, stating that there is nothing wrong in what the cops did. "Did the public think they can keep all fines pending?"he said. Anand supported the reader stating that he is of the same opinion. On the other hand, Bharath Kumar said: "While getting the past dues cleared is absolutely just, collecting Rs 500 without receipt, harassing people who prove they are in an emergency just because they can pocket money is inhumane.

WEBHITS

3 most-read articles on the Mirror site

- Engineering students clamour for e-classes
- CBSE gears up to conduct boards
- Big cats on prowl in Jayamangali blackbuck reserve

Students in portion stress

Protest by guest lecturers of govt colleges delays syllabus completion

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Permanent lecturers say they are managing Science curriculum by alotting extra classes to students

With exams fast approaching, students are not just worried over the spurt in covid cases, but also the fact that the portions have not been completed due to the protest by guest lecturers. Guest lecturers started protesting boycotting classes from December 10, 2021. It was more than one month of protest and classes stopped abruptly. Recently, the State Government increased honorarium to Rs 28,000 to Rs 32,000. But, the protesting lecturers are not satisfied with it. They are demanding regularisation of the services.

Karnataka Government College Lecturers Association's President TM Manjunath Says, "There are 7,000 regular lecturers in the State while there are 12,500 guest lecturers. So, naturally, they are handling classes equal to regular teachers. Due to the protest, the classes are largely affected. In Maharani Arts, Commerce, and Management College, Commerce subjects are most affected by the protest. We hope the government will extend the term and start another round of negotiations with the lecturers."

Degree classes started on October 8, 2021. But, the process of appointing guest lecturers took a little more time and they started working from November. After one month of classes, they started protesting. Some colleges allotted extra classes to available lecturers.

Examinations are approaching in the months of February-March for 1, 3, and 5th semesters. But the classes are not even 50 per cent held. Even though lecturers with regular pay took extra classes to balance, it became difficult. Some colleges have no permanent lecturers for many subjects. Even though teaching is essential for a student to learn the subject, the Science and Commerce subject students face more difficulty in understanding concepts than Arts students. Language subjects can also be studied, independently for examinations, but it will not supplement classroom teaching, he added.

A Science lecturer at government college, says, "We are managing Science classes by allotting extra classes to regular lecturers. But the Commerce department suffered a lot because the number of students was also higher and the dependence of guest lecturers was more. There is no other way by taking extra classes to prepare the students for the examination."

Another lecturer says, "In today's world, students can learn on their own with the help of the internet. But their learning through teachers is more effective and interactive. Classroom learning is not only learning with human interaction, it also includes students' socialising in the college atmosphere and peer group. Students lose such an opportunity, which affects their overall psychological health. No technology can replace a teacher's presence."

> **In Maharani College, Commerce subjects are most affected by the protest. We hope the government will extend the term**
>
> –TM Manjunath, union leader

Vice-Chancellor of Tumkur University Siddegowda says, "Lecturers have done classes before the protest. I hope now also they may take extra classes to complete the remaining syllabus." A student says, "We are trying to learn on our own. We have heard only 50 per cent of the classes. As exams are approaching, we fear it may be difficult this time."

Meanwhile, Higher Education Minister Dr C N Ashwath Narayan said, "The salaries of guest lecturers have been raised more than two-fold, and out of the 14,000 guest lecturers, around 4,500 lecturers are UGC recognised. Receiving applications for the appointment of guest lecturers will begin from January 17 and candidates need to submit their application within

Rs 320 cr aid to varsity triggers row

This comes in the wake of Kannada University in Hampi facing acute shortage of funds

Kannada organisations and activists have criticized the ruling BJP government decision to grant Rs 320 crore fund to establish Karnataka Samskrit University'. The release of funds to Sanskrit University at a time when Kannada University at Hampi is facing acute shortage of funds has left them fuming.

Kannada University at Hampi had written to the state government for the assistance of Rs 24 crore as it is almost a year since the university has paid fellowships to students.

The crunch has crippled the university so much that it had not taken any students for three years. The guest faculty were paid six months ago and the cash strapped university has no money to provide retirement benefits to professors. fter a public campaign in 2021 by Kannada organisations, the government released Rs 3.52 crores. Shruthi HM, a software professional and Kannada activist, told INS that Kannada University at Hampi is the only dedicated research university in the world.

There is no fund to release the salaries. The Kannada Development uthority is asking for Rs 2 crores, but the government is not responding.

Now, they want to build a Sanskrit University near Ramnagar on the elephant corridor.

> **Kannada language activists have started a campaign 'SayNoToSanskrit' in this regard**

"There is a Sanskrit university in Sringeri. Has anyone studied admissions, results and demand? We are not against Sanskrit. But, the government should clarify where the demand for such a university is?a she questions.

Goutham Ganesh M.H., a netizen, as per 2011 language census, in Karnataka, only 1,218 people identify Sanskrit as their mother tongue. Spending Rs 300 plus crores on a language not even spoken by 1 per cent of the population is meaningless and an utter waste of taxpayers' money.

The Kannada language activists have started a campaign 'SayNoToSanskrit' in this regard. T Narayana Gowda, president of Karnataka Rakshana Vedike stated that "we should remember Gokak agitation which took place against conspiracy to impose Sanskrit in education at the cost of local language Kannada. To get a least amount to Hampi Kannada University a campaign had to be launched. The priority of ruling BJP in the state is clear. The time has arrived to unite against the imposition of Hindi as well as Sanskrit, he said.

Sources explain that the government is pushing the university to become self-reliant. The government is not being outspoken about it fearing the backlash.

The activists are questioning the government that when it can fund Rs 320 crore for Sanskrit University why it can't release sufficient funds to Kannada University. **—Agencies**

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Problems in your area?
Send us a picture along with specific details. And please, no phone calls or spamming

Shoddy work
Kengeri

The ongoing pavement work left incomplete near Hoysala Circle at Kengeri Upanagara is causing inconvenience to the pedestrians. The work needs to be completed to avoid any mishap.

Fix the hole
Mathikere

A damaged manhole, improperly covered, on MSR Engineering College Road near Mathikere extension is causing inconvenience to pedestrians. The road is frequented by students in large numbers and thus it poses danger to them and others.

Motorists' agony
Vivekananda Nagar

A portion of the damaged road near Vivekananda Nagar is causing trouble to motorists. The broken part is posing danger to every commuter.

Deadly strings attached

3,746 manja rescue cases in 2021; 156 cases already recorded this year

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Time after time, manjas continue to injure wildlife in Bengaluru. According to data furnished by rescue organisations in the city, at least 3,746 'manja rescue' cases were reported in 2021. This year, 156 cases have already been recorded. The number of cases in 2020 was 1,634.

"There has been a phenomenal rise in such cases across the city. Previously, we used to get one to two calls a day, which has gone up to 10-12. This is not just during the festival. Amid the last lockdown and this ongoing weekend curfews, many Bengaloreans have resorted to kite flying to while away the time. Yesterday, with the help of the fire department, we rescued a black kite that was stuck in manja at a height of 150 feet," said Dr. Navaz Shariff, general manager and chief veterinarian, People for Animals, Bengaluru.

Experts from Avian and Reptile Rehabilitation Centre (ARRC), Bengaluru agree. "While manja cases are associated with the Sankranti festival, this time around, it is different. We have been getting cases post lockdown last year itself. We get birds stuck in not just synthetic, but cotton manjas too, leading to injuries. The only difference is that cotton manjas are less dangerous," said Subiksha Venkatesh, rescue manager, ARRC.

According to rescuers, birds such as black kites, crows, koels, barn owls and mammals like bats are most commonly found entangled. Rescue operations are performed with the help of telescopic poles and ladders. Many times, Fire department and BESCOM officials help in the rescues with earthmovers and buses to reach the height.

Flight feather damage, fractures and head injuries due to fall and damage to the neck and legs are the most common injuries. "In case of fractures, external or internal fixation methods are used for bone repair. For feather damage, feather imping is done. It is a procedure of implanting donor feathers into the injured bird's feather bones breaking cases. We do intricate surgeries and put intramedullary pins inside the birds too," said Dr. Navaz.

It's not just the birds

While most of the reported rescue cases involve big birds, experts say that other species of birds and mammals are affected too. According to a statistic by PfA, in 2021, 25 different animal species were affected by manjas compared to 13 in 2020.

"Birds are curious creatures. When they see bright manjas, they approach and get entangled. The more they try to get away, the more they get stuck. Those we rescue are generally bigger animals that we can spot struggling. But a tree also houses smaller creatures such as bulbuls or squirrels. Many of these get entangled, choke and die immediately. So, the actual number of the animals we are losing to manjas is higher," said Dr. Roopa Satish, senior veterinarian, Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation Centre, Bengaluru.

WHY ARE KILLER MANJAS STILL IN USE?

The National Green Tribunal (NGT) had banned the use, manufacture, sale, storage and purchase of glass-coated manja or nylon threads for flying kites via an order in July 2017. Despite that, the sale of the banned kite-flying thread continues in the city.

"I have been reaching out to the authorities regularly, demanding for action on the sale of synthetic manjas. However, just one raid has been conducted so far. To add to that, the information of the raid was leaked and by the time the team could reach the spot, all majas had disappeared. Authorities should conduct spot raids and those selling the killer manjas should be fined heavily. The rule has been enforced well in states like Telangana and Tamil Nadu. However, in Karnataka, no FIR has been lodged and no conviction has happened in this regard," said Dr. Navaz.

The synthetic and glass-coated manjas are in demand due to low prices as well. They are available at one-third of the price of cotton manja. Moreover, they are bright in colour and sturdy, making it popular among kite flyers.

According to the wildlife experts, the need of the hour is to ban the manufacture and sale of manja, apart from spreading awareness about its dangers, and better implementation of the rules to ensure safer skies.

Probe sought into BDA site scam

Yet another BDA site scam has been unearthed and the Vigilance Squad of the BDA Special Task force filed three complaints with the Sheshadripuram police on Wednesday sought a detailed probe.

Srinivas VT, Lakshmaiah and Indramani, all three officers with the vigilance Squad, filed complaints with the police on Wednesday who registered three cases against the accused, Manju Naik K, Srinivas G and Ramesh Baby for colluding with a few BDA staff and middleman charging them under forgery, and cheating.

The Vigilance officers who conducted a probe based on a tip off, told the police that the BDA had issued an e-notification recently to auction sites at sir M Vishweshwaraiah layout 7th and 8th block. "The accused manipulated the site number to create a fake document with a forged signature and seal of a BDA official. The accused even submitted fake documents at the office of deputy secretary for approval and using the documents got the registration done in the name of the three accused. The entire scam is done with the help of a few BDA staff and middlemen working in BDA office situated on T Chowdaiah road," he stated.

A senior officer said that the police have started the investigation but no arrest has been made so far.

MRS vax in fridge killed 3 babies

The probe into the deaths of three babies after measles-rubella (MR) vaccination in Belagavi district of Karnataka has revealed that the nurse had obtained the vaccination vials one day earlier from the pharmacist and had kept them in a hotel fridge along with food items, violating all protocols.

This led to bacterial infection and after the administration of these vaccines the three babies died due to 'aseptic shock syndrome'. Two deaths were reported after being vaccinated at Bochagala camp on January 12 while one death was reported from Mallapura camp on January 11. As many as 17 babies were vaccinated at Bochagala and four babies had received shots at Mallapura in Ramdurg taluk. Two girls, one 18 months old and the other 12 months old are recovering in hospitals.

Karnataka Health Minister Dr K Sudhakar stated on Monday that directions have been given to immediately suspend nurse Salma and pharmacist Jayaram. He said he had ordered another probe and directions have been given to submit the report within two days.

Dr Eshwar Gadad, District Immunization Officer of Belagavi, stated that as per the protocol the vaccination vials have to be taken from the primary health centre (PHC) to the vaccination camps and they should be returned to the PHC. "Nurse Salma should not have carried them and kept them in a hotel fridge. All vials obtained by her have been taken back and sent for tests," he said. —IANS

The film was over but the 'villains' showed up later

The agony of a 73-year-old film distributor who had taken a cinema theatre on lease in Hoskote is much more than other distributors reeling under effects of the pandemic. This film distributor, AH Basha had to approach the police as the owner of the theatre sold the theatre to a third party with the help of a mediator without his knowledge.

Based on the complaint filed by the Basha, the Hoskote police have taken up a case of rioting with dangerous weapons, unlawful assembly, criminal trespassing among other sections against the mediator identified as Yeshukrishna and 60 others who gathered at the Sadhana theatre premise with weapons. The men allegeded broke the windows and other theatre property. They are said to have used three earthmovers to demolish the theatre's compound wall.

In his complaint to the police, Basha said that he received a phone call from his workers at the theatre when he was at home that a crowd had gathered there with three JCBs on Friday night after the evening show ended around 11 pm. Akkineni Nagarjuna's film Bangarraju is playing at the theatre. Due to covid restrictions, the seating capacity of the theatre is only 50%, said Basha.

The total capacity of Sadhana Theatre is around 650 including balcony seating, Basha added.

"I took the theatre for lease on August 12, 2018 for 24 years including the period of five years as an option as mentioned in the mutual agreement between the owner and me. I had spent over Rs 3.5 crore and have also furnished the theatre with Dolby and Digital audio setup," Basha told Bangalore Mirror. He said a mediator named Yeshukrishna told his staff that the theatre had been sold to a third party named Neelakanta Naid.

According to Basha, Yeshukrishna owns 9 acres behind the theatre premise and has no access road to his land. He said this 'eviction' was part of his plan to get some land belonging to the theatre to make an access road to his land. Basha said after his workers called him he rushed to the theatre and tried to stop them, but they didn't listen so he approached the police. —Bellie Thomas

Poison of fraud: SC junks Devas plea

The Supreme Court on Monday said if the seeds of the commercial relationship between the Antrix Corporation and Devas Multimedia, were a product of fraud perpetrated by latter, "then the plant which grew out of those seeds was infected with poison of fraud", as it upheld the NCLT order, directing the firm's winding up.

Antrix Corporation is the commercial arm of Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).

A bench of Justices Hemant Gupta and V. Ramasubramanian, in their 134-page judgment, said: "We do not know if the action of Antrix in seeking the winding up of Devas may send a wrong message to the community of investors.

"But allowing Devas and its shareholders to reap the benefits of their fraudulent action, may nevertheless send another wrong message namely that by adopting fraudulent means and by bringing into India an investment in a sum of Rs 579 crore, the investors can hope to get tens of thousands of crores of rupees, even after siphoning off Rs 488 crore."

In May last year, the Bengaluru bench of the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) ordered the winding up of Devas, at the instance of Antrix. **IANS**

Suburban rail off the tracks?

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

According to K-RIDE, the question of giving priority to one corridor over another doesn't arise. Officials said all the four corridors will be taken up simultaneously and will be completed within the stipulated time frame of six years.

"We have a total time of six years to complete all the four corridors. Initial work has started and is going on at a fast pace. This is a project of extreme complexity. We will be executing all our work alongside operational railway lines. It is an extremely complicated project where we need multiple approvals, including that of the Ministry of Railways. However, a lot of groundwork is happening at a very hectic pace, which includes planning, alignment finalisation, station building planning, intermodal integration, funding and suchlike. We have invited civil work tenders which are opening in the first week of February 2022; we are planning to finalise it by the end of that month. The work on the ground should begin in March," an official told BM.

According to the Directorate of Urban Land Transport (DULT), the government has given priority to Byappanahalli-Chikkabanavara and Heelalige-Rajankunte corridors and these will be completed first.

"The government has given priority to Byappanahalli-Chikkabanavara and Heelalige-Rajankunte corridors. Work will be taken up on these first. The entire project has a fixed timeline and all the preparatory work is going on for all the four corridors," a DULT official said.

Citizens irked

Many concerned citizens and civic activists are irked at the authorities for the 'hush-hush and undemocratic manner' in which the decisions have been taken. They complained that once again no public consultation was done.

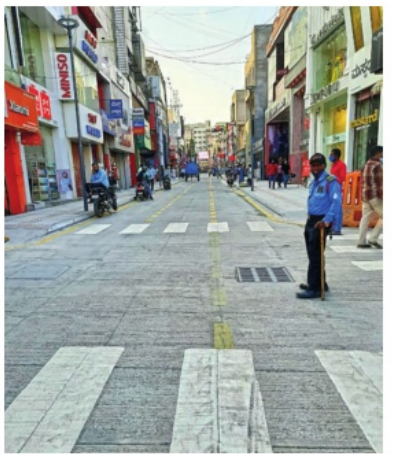
"Both the projects, Metro to the airport and the suburban train corridor to the airport from KR City Railway station, were sanctioned around the same time. While the work at the Metro's site is ongoing, the suburban rail project is yet to take off. To top it, they have decided not to prioritise the KSR Bengaluru City-Devanahalli corridor without any stakeholder consultation," said an agitated resident of Yelahanka New Town.

According to Rajkumar Dugar, founder and convenor, Citizens for Citizens, KSR Bengaluru City-Devanahalli corridor could have eased a lot of city traffic.

"Currently, the entire traffic to the airport, people or cargo, is road-centric. Every day, hundreds of commuters from across the city and the surrounding areas go to the airport via road, leading to traffic congestion. The two practical options are – metro and suburban trains. When it comes to the metro, while the construction work has always been behind the schedule, the tracks are anyway not passing through the city centre, whereas the suburban rail track is through the city and could have eased the traffic by a big margin," according to Dugar.

Commercial Street ready for business

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



once parking is allowed, where there is a possibility of traffic congestions. Unlike in the past, where one could walk both on the footpath and carriageway, now, with just the footpath, space is limited.

BSCL chief engineer Vinayak Sugur said the carriageway was made narrow for the benefit of walkers: "The wider footpath will help people to walk safely. The carriageway space is sufficient for parked and moving vehicles. The space marked for parked cars can even accommodate SUVs or hatchbacks easily."

Commercial Street was initially repaired last year by laying paver blocks. But it turned into a mess once it started to rain as water gushed out from the footpaths. The engineers had to dismantle the entire work post inauguration. Revenue minister R Ashoka blamed the contractor and asked to redo the entire stretch. It was then decided to use cobblestones, replicating Church Street design. However, that plan was also cancelled. Finally, as disabled friendly granite slabs were laid on the footpath, the carriageway was white-topped. LED lights were installed on either side of the stretch as well.

"The decision to concretise the carriageway was taken by BSCL MD Rajendra Cholan and engineers. This helped in finishing the work faster; both the traders and buyers will not face any problem now," Sugur noted.

Asked when the street would be opened for vehicles he said the contractors would carry out another round of cleaning and throw it open: "Vehicles will be allowed alternatively from either side. One day on the right side and the next day on the left."

Citizens seemed happy with the work, including the shop owners along commercial street. "For a long time people faced difficulty; we suffered huge losses as people stopped coming. Now we hope to get some business. The footpath and carriageway look pleasing," said Anand Dadu of Bangalore Commercial Association.

Rithika G, a shopper said: "It was difficult to walk here every time I came to shop in the past year. The roads had become dusty. BSCL has done a good job now... Hope there is no more digging. The stretch looks beautiful."

Meanwhile, the works at Dispensary Road and Kamaraj Road are yet to be completed — while the roads are asphalted, the footpaths are still not done. Sugur said works would be finished on these two stretches by January end. The total cost of Commercial Street, Dispensary Road and Kamaraj Road revamp is said to be Rs 35 crore.

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THIS is to certify that Gp Capt TR Ravi (S/o TR Tulasi) who has served in IAF, his Full name is TULASI RUKMINI RAVI (S/o TR Tulasi), which is same as mentioned in Adhaar, Pan Card and Passport. His permanent residential address is No,363, 10th Main Road, 13th B Cross, Yelahanka New Town, Bengaluru 560064.

I, ABDUL BASID FAREEDA BEGUM, R/at #9 &10, Chick Bazar Road, Shivajinagar, Bangalore-560051. I Have changed my name to FAREEDA BEGUM, W/o. Ilyas Paha, Vide Affidavit Dated: 17/01/2022 Sworn before Notary: V.Rajashekhara, Advocate, Bangalore

I, HUMERA NASEER, R/at #1035, Syed Ahmed Road, Bangarpet-563114. I, Have changed my name to HUMEERA NASEER Vide Affidavit Dated:17/01/2022, Sworn before Notary: V. Rajashekhara, Advocate, Bangalore

I Syeeda Naseemunnisa Saheba W/O, Khazi Mohamed Zaffarulla Quraishi R/o No 3/1, Inteqab Manzil, Marappa Block, J C Nagar, Bangalore 560006 have changed my name to Syeda Naseemunnisa for all purposes.

I, Veena Vijaya kumar W/O Vijaya Kumar. A R/o No. 1226, 2nd Main Road, BEML 3rd Stage, RR Nagar, Bangalore-560098 has changed my name to Veena Vijay W/O Vijaya Kumar. A

I Anupma Singh W/o Rakesh Kumar Singh R/o H No. 251, Sai Shakthi Enclave, GF3A, Hallagevaderahalli, R R Nagar, Bengaluru - 560098 have changed my name to Anupma Kumari

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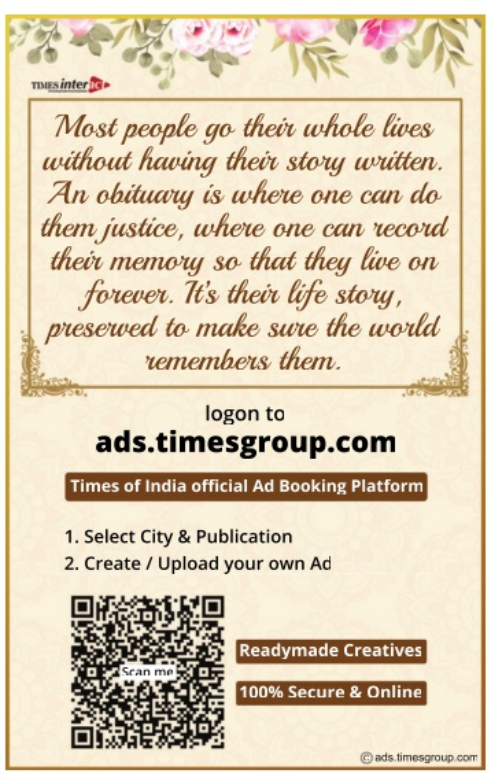
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BENGALURU IS ALL SET FOR AN ELECTRIFYING RIDE

Karnataka is among the top three states in EV registrations; number went up five times since 2018

Pragna L Krupa
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Battery-powered vehicles are slowly taking over the streets in Karnataka with a five-fold increase in registration of EVs in the past four years and 88 per cent of EVs sold in the state being two-wheelers.

With record-breaking prices of petrol and diesel, people have started to consider electric vehicles and thus, the demand for electric vehicles is also increasing. According to the regional transport office (RTO), there has been at least five times an increase in registration of EVs in the state since 2018. About 88 per cent of the EVs are two-wheelers, 6.5 per cent are four-wheelers and the remaining are three-wheelers.

Narendra Holkar, additional commissioner of transport (Enforcement South) said that there was an increase in the number of registrations of EVs in the city and the state. "People are realising the benefits of electric vehicles. All EVs have road tax exemption with no registration fee which is also attracting people."

The RTO data says, the total number of EVs registration had a sharp increase from 3,806 vehicles in 2018 to 22,264 in 2021 till November. Of the 22,264 vehicles in 2021, 19,615 are two-wheelers.

With the growth in EVs, there has been a sharp decline in non-EV (petrol and diesel vehicles) registration in the state. Year after year, the number has come down from 15 lakh in 2018 to 14 lakh in 2019, 10 lakh in 2020 and 6 lakh in 2021. The number of non-EV two-wheelers has also drastically gone down from 12 lakh in 2019 to four lakh in 2021. The pandemic seems to have affected the registration of non-EVs however, looking at the statistics, the EVs have had no effect of pandemic and had good number registration.

An official from RTO said that the EVs which are below 25 kilo watt and the non-EVs with less than 50 CC can be driven without registration or a licence.

Recently, union road, transport and highway minister Nitin Gadkari announced that Karnataka was among the top three states in terms of electric vehicle registration in the country. He announced

Rising petrol and disease prices has largely contrbuted to the popularity of e-vehicles

8,70,141 electric vehicles have been registered in India with Uttar Pradesh being the highest number of EV registrations at 255,700 units, followed by Delhi at 125,347 units and Karnataka at 72,544 EVs.

CHARGING POINT

Hero MotoCorp shares jump nearly 6%

Shares of Hero MotoCorp on Monday jumped nearly 6 per cent after the company's board approved further investment of up to Rs 420 crore in electric two-wheeler company Ather Energy. The stock rallied 5.87 per cent to Rs 2,721.45 on the BSE. At the NSE, it jumped 5.92 per cent to Rs 2,722. The company's board has approved the investment in one or more tranches, Hero Motocorp said in a

statement. Prior to the proposed investment, the company's shareholding in Ather Energy stood at 34.8 per cent (on a fully diluted basis). After the investment, the shareholding will increase and the exact shareholding will be determined upon the completion of the capital raising round by Ather, Hero MotoCorp stated.

The company aims to make EV ownership a convenient, hassle-free, and rewarding experience for customers across the world, they added.

The rise and rise of electric vehicles

YEAR	Electric Vehicles				Other fuel vehicles			
	Two wheeler	Three wheeler	Four wheeler	Total	Two wheeler	Three wheeler	Four wheeler	Total
2018-19	3,023	173	610	3,806	12,63,234	43,323	2,25,707	15,32,264
1019-20	6,394	223	562	7,179	11,60,971	41,632	2,04,853	14,07,456
2020-21	11,784	429	806	13,019	8,52,679	8,793	1,85,888	10,47,360
2021-22*	19,615	1,585	1,064	22,264	4,77,276	6,409	1,26,290	6,09,975
Total	40,816	2,410	3,042	46,268	37,54,160	1,00,157	7,42,738	45,97,055

Honda to start battery-swapping services in city

KR Balasubramanyam@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

Japanese auto major Honda Motor Company will start offering battery-swapping services to electric three-wheelers in Bengaluru by the end of June, seeking to test the market in India's tech capital before entering other cities.

The company will begin with seven stations before scaling up to 50 over the next 18 months, Karnataka's commissioner for industries, Gunjan Krishna, who led the talks with the company, told media. Honda did its proof-of-concept experiment in Mumbai, but has opted for Bengaluru to launch the service, she said. The auto major has already set up a subsidiary Honda Power Pack Energy India, to roll out the business and has invested 135 crore. The company will make continuous investment to step up the battery-sharing network, Kiyoshi Ito, the subsidiary's chairman and managing director, said in an emailed response to queries.

The network expansion in Bengaluru will happen in a phased manner. The company hopes its battery-sharing service will accelerate the penetration of electric vehicles (EVs) as it will address the issues of range anxiety, cost of vehicle and waiting time for charging. The Japanese multinational will initially look at the three-wheeler segment as e-autos are used for short distance goods transport as well.

The company thinks ecommerce and logistics will drive demand for e-autos. Honda is working with multiple vehicle makers to help them integrate its India-made batteries into their vehicles, Ito said, declining to name them. Many companies including Piaggio, Mahindra Treo, Greaves Mobility Altigreen and Euler are into electric three-wheelers.

According to Honda, more drivers can buy EVs when three-wheelers are sold without batteries.

Federation of Auto Dealers Association's Karnataka chapter chairman MP Shyam said without batteries, EVs will be much more affordable as batteries account for about 40 per cent of the cost. "A battery-sharing service will cut so much in capital cost for drivers," he said, and added Honda's battery service will boost EV adoption and help ecommerce firms address their last-mile delivery challenges.

Karnataka has been aggressively pursuing EV adoption, and even tweaked its electric vehicle and storage policy a few months ago, to stay competitive with other states about concessions and incentives to investors. The state's subsidy to the EV sector applies to EV assembly manufacturing, component manufacturing, battery-pack module manufacturing, EV charging infrastructure equipment manufacturing and a few other EV production-related units.

'India is pharmacy to world'
India is pharmacy to world, saved crores of lives by supplying medicines, covid vaccines, says PM Modi at Davos summit

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SC stresses on steps to rehabilitate children

DMs asked to take steps to provide shelter to kids living on streets

#NEW DELHI

Against the backdrop of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, the Supreme Court on Monday directed all District Magistrates to engage with District Legal Service Authority (DLSA), and voluntary organisations to rehabilitate children in street situations.

A bench of Justices L. Nageswara Rao and B.V. Nagarathna said: "We direct all DMs to involve DLSA and voluntary organisations in the identification of children on streets without any further delay."

It added that immediate steps are required by the Central and state governments to provide shelter to children in street situations. It emphasised that children should be shifted to shelter homes and also directed the DMs to upload the information at all stages on the web portal of the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR).

The bench further added that state governments and Union Territories should engage with authorities concerned to identify and rehabilitate children, without any further delay.

Additional Solicitor General K.M. Nataraj, representing the NCPCR, contended that several states have not uploaded the details of children in street situations on the Bal Swaraj Portal. The amicus curiae pointed at the absence of information by states and UTs in connection with steps taken for rehabilitation of children who have not been identified.

Citing harsh winters, the bench said there are children who don't have anybody to take care of them and their condition would become worse in northern parts. "Just imagine how they are surviving on the streets. You have to immediately shift them to 'rain basera', shelter homes. This is your duty...Act immediately," said the bench.

Children selling flags at Safdarjung Traffic signal in New Delhi

Also, citing the third wave of Covid, the top court said it cannot become an excuse for the delay in the rehabilitation of children in street situations, and reiterated that children cannot be ignored.

Additional Advocate General for Uttar Pradesh Garima Prasad submitted before the top court that nearly 30,282 children were identified in the state in five districts by NGOs, and the government is attempting to reach them.

The top court also directed the states to develop a rehabilitation policy for children and seek the NCPCR's assistance in this matter.

It asked states to file a status report within three weeks and scheduled the matter for further hearing after four weeks. The top court is hearing a suo motu case in connection with children who have been impacted by the pandemic by losing either one or both the parents. **-IANS**

2 Indians killed in drone attack in UAE

#NEW DELHI

Yemen's Houthi rebel group claimed responsibility for a "qualitative military operation" that struck areas deep inside the United Arab Emirates (UAE) in which three persons including two Indians were killed. As per the Abu Dhabi police, three persons -- two Indians and one Pakistani, were killed. Besides, six others were injured.

"An important statement will be announced in the upcoming hours to reveal details on the strategic operation deep inside the UAE," said the Houthi rebel group's spokesman Yahya Saree in a brief press statement on Monday.

The Houthis' claim surfaced just after three petroleum tankers exploded in a fire near the storage facilities of Abu Dhabi National Oil Company in the UAE captial's Musaffah industrial district, the official WAM news agency reported, citing an announcement of the Abu Dhabi police.

A minor fire also broke out in the new construction area of Abu Dhabi International Airport, according to the WAM. Initial investigations show the fires and explosion were possibly caused by unidentified drones in the area.

A storage facility of oil giant ADNOC near the airport in the capital of the UAE, Abu Dhabi

The fire at both places has been brought under control and air traffic was not affected, officials told the media. The UAE is an active member of the Saudi-led coalition which has been fighting a large-scale war against the Houthi rebel militia in various areas of Yemen.

The Saudi-led coalition intervened in the Yemeni conflict in 2015 to support the Yemeni internationally recognised government of President Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi after the Iran-backed Houthi militia forced him out of Sanaa. **-IANS**

Delhi reports drop of 31% in daily covid cases

#NEW DELHI

Delhi on Monday recorded 12,527 fresh Covid cases in the last 24 hours, a significant decline of 31 per cent from Sunday's 18,286 cases, and 24 more deaths, against 28 the previous day.

The new cases have taken the tally to 17,22,497, while the death toll has risen to 25,387.

Meanwhile, Delhi's positivity rate stands at 27.99 per cent, a marginal growth from 27.87 per cent on Sunday. The active Covid cases have also registered a decline of around 6,000 cases from 89,819 cases to stand at 83,982, as per the Delhi Health Department.

With a 93.65 per cent Covid recovery rate, the active Covid cases rate in Delhi stands at 4.87 per cent while the death rate stands at 1.47 per cent.

A covid-19 infected patient in isolation ward in Delhi

With 18,340 patients recovering in the last 24 hours, the total number of recoveries has gone to 16,13,128. A total of 68,275 Covid patients are being treated in home isolation at present.

The number of Covid containment zones has risen to 34,958. Meanwhile, a total of 44,762 new tests -- 39,767 RT-PCR and 4,995 Rapid Antigen - were conducted in the last 24 hours, taking the total to 3,41,04,825. **-IANS**

R-Day: Security on Rajpath tightened

#NEW DELHI

After receiving inputs from multiple agencies on the suspected terror attack on Republic Day events in the national capital, the security of Rajpath has been doubled and re-verification of Central Vista workers has been ordered.

A senior Delhi police officer said that after the recent recovery of an IED from Ghazipur flower market on January 14 and on receiving inputs regarding a terror attack on Republic Day, additional security personnel have been deployed round the clock in Rajpath and India Gate.

A team of the Ministry of Defence, Intelligence Bureau, Delhi Police and other Intelligence agencies visited the parade route and India Gate on Monday and reviewed security measures.

They briefed the Delhi Police regarding additional security measures that need to be put in place before Republic Day.

"We have ordered re-verification of construction workers at Central Vista, bomb disposal squad and dog squad sweeping the entire area thrice a day. The deployment of security personnel to be same 24*7 till Republic Day," he added.

Billionaires seem to have had a terrific pandemic

#NEW DELHI

The world's ten richest men more than doubled their fortunes from $700 billion to $1.5 trillion --at a rate of $15,000 per second or $1.3 billion a day-- during the first two years of a pandemic that has seen the incomes of 99 per cent of humanity fall and over 160 million more people forced into poverty, according to an Oxfam International report released on Monday.

WORLD

"If these ten men were to lose 99.999 per cent of their wealth tomorrow, they would still be richer than 99 per cent of all the people on this planet," Oxfam International's Executive Director Gabriela Bucher said in the report. "They now have six times more wealth than the poorest 3.1 billion people," she added.

Billionaires' wealth has risen more since COVID-19 began than it has in the last 14 years. At $5 trillion dollars, this is the biggest surge in billionaire wealth since records began.

Oxfam International said, its calculations are based on the most up-to-date and comprehensive data sources available. "Figures on the very richest in society come from Forbes' 2021 Billionaires List. Figures on the share of wealth come from the Credit Suisse Research Institute's Global Wealth Databook 2021. Figures on the incomes of the 99 percent are from the World Bank."

Elon Musk and Jeff Bezos are high up there in the rich list

According to Forbes, the 10 richest people, as of 30 November 2021, have seen their fortunes grow by $821 billion dollars since March 2020. The 10 richest men were listed as: Elon Musk, Jeff Bezos, Bernard Arnault & family, Bill Gates, Larry Ellison, Larry Page, Sergey Brin, Mark Zuckerberg, Steve Ballmer and Warren Buffet. A one-off 99 per cent tax on the richest men's pandemic windfalls, for eg could pay: to make enough vaccines for the world; to provide universal healthcare and social protection, fund climate adaptation and reduce gender-based violence in over 80 countries. All this, while still leaving these men $8 billion better off than they were before the pandemic, the report noted. "Billionaires have had a terrific pandemic. Central banks pumped trillions of dollars into markets to save the economy, yet much of that has ended up lining the pockets of billionaires riding a stock market boom. Vaccines were meant to end this pandemic, yet rich governments allowed pharma billionaires to cut off the supply to billions of people," said Bucher.

BEST OF
DR MAHINDER WATSA

The finest responses of Dr Watsa are being republished in this column as a tribute to him.

1 I'm a 44-year-old man and my wife is 39 years old. Neither of us have any major medical conditions. However, since my wife terminated two pregnancies, she has been refusing to have penetrative sex, even on safe days. As a result, our frequency has dropped to once a month or less. She has fears of getting pregnant again and has refused a tubectomy (we consulted a gynaecologist). Initially I was fine with a vasectomy, but I changed my mind after reading about its psychological effects later in life. She orgasms and I assist her. She encourages me to satisfy myself, but I do not like to do it. She is really scared during penetrative sex. But having nearly no sex has led to tremendous frustration for me and I am wondering why I should stay in a sexless marriage. She is not even ready to plan a schedule. I do understand sex needs to happen when both partners are ready but the best years to have enjoyable sex are being wasted. Please help.
It will be difficult to change her mind. I suggest you relook at the possibility of a vasectomy. Discuss with the doctor whether you would suffer any psychological effect. This does not normally occur.

2 I am an 18-year-old man. My penis gets curved when I get an erection. How can I address this issue?
Visit an andrologist to identify the cause of the curvature. Usually, if the curve is less than 30 degrees, sexual intercourse is possible and therefore nothing needs to be done.

MEET THE SEXPERTS
Use this QR code to send your questions to us

What's up, brow?

Tips to groom the one of the most expressive parts of your face — your eyebrows of course- at home

Ria Bhatia
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What do you think of when you hear the term 'Brows on fleek'? You're most likely to form an image of well-defined and nicely done brows in your head. Be it thick, thin, feathered or deeply filled-in, the ideal definition of 'Brows on fleek' has evolved over the years and still differs from person to person. However, after the pandemic hit us, all the fortnightly eyebrow sessions came to a pause and as it became a long-term member of our lives, the shaped and arched brows took a backseat. Well, the salons are open now but we're assuming that most of us tried our hands at shaping our eyebrows at home at some point in the past few months and a few have stuck to that very method and mastered the skill of at-home brow grooming. Well, if you ask us, it's not a toilsome task at all.

Benefits Of Grooming Brows At Home

Hygiene: No, we don't mean to say that salons aren't hygienic. But, nothing beats the clean, hygienic and fresh atmosphere of your homes, agree?
Convenience: I mean every lazy or busy girl out there will agree that picking up and tweezing and cleaning your brows at home is so much more convenient. You can literally groom your brows at 2 am in the night too, no appointments, no delays.
Safety: It's important to reinstate that the pandemic hasn't gone anywhere. With the cases swinging up and down, there's always a minimal risk and that risk goes higher when the cases are at a rise. The foolproof solution? At-home brow grooming.
Avoids the mishaps: "A whole lot of people have realised that an over-groomed, over-arched brow is really outdated so they're shifting to more natural, softer and effortless brows," says Umang Vanshika, National Brow Artist, Benefit Cosmetics India. Have you even really gotten your brows done at a salon if the grooming lady didn't go wrong with them once? LOL. With the recently booming bushy brow trend, it's key to keep the thickness of your brows intact and only discard the 'extras'. We don't think anyone can do that better than you, yourself.

Steps To Groom Brows At Home

STEP 1: Fake A Stencil
The only thing you can majorly go wrong with is the shape and fullness of your brows while grooming them at home. The brow razors may chip off more than you wanted or you may go overboard with tweezing. "Use a micro tip brow pencil and demarcate the area of the eyebrows that you don't want to touch. I usually outline my brow in a sharp manner so that I can see that line and I only raze or wax above that line," says Vanshika. Thus, outlining your brows by following their natural shape is the best way to draw the ultimate boundary.

STEP 2: Ease Her With A Tweezer
Yes, we meant brows with her because she's a key part of our face, no? Anyway, tweezers are much better than tugging your skin with wax or thread. "The best way to shape your brows at home would be with the help of good tweezers and a cosmetic scissor," says Vanshika. "They'll be your best friends when it comes to grooming at home," she adds.

STEP 3: Tweeze Like A Pro
While tweezing is quite straightforward in the sense that you've just got to pluck the hair you want to get rid of, there is a way to go about it. "I would always advise that only take the extras off that are particularly shining outside the shape of the natural brows and not go too near the brow," suggests Vanshika. "Make sure you're using a sharp pair of tweezers that give you a good grip so that they can really pull out the finest hair. Also, always sit in front of a window with good daylight streaming in and place the mirror in front of your skin. Then, slowly and comfortably pull the skin and start tweezing, one hair at a time," she adds.

STEP 4: Don't Skin After-Care
"It's important to note that after any hair removal you do not apply any cream lotion, toner or any alcohol-based product on your skin because it's sensitive and the pores are open," advises Vanshika. "The only thing that will calm the skin is a cold compress. You'd wanna press it on the skin till your skin calms and cools down, wait for a few hours and only then apply any skincare product," she adds. Speaking of eyebrow care, she says, "The best way is to nourish them. You can apply some Benefit Cosmetics Brow WOW Conditioning Primer that has keratin or brush some warm castor oil across the brows with a spoolie."

MIRRORLIGHTS

We've got a gut feeling on what's really sweet and what's not

A new research study, led by Diego Bohorquez, an associate professor of medicine and neurobiology in the Duke University School of Medicine shed light on the cells in one's intestines that could distinguish between two sweet solutions and communicate the difference to one's brain in milliseconds.

Not long after the sweet taste receptor was identified in the mouths of mice 20 years ago, scientists attempted to knock those taste buds out. But they were surprised to find that mice could still somehow discern and prefer natural sugar to artificial sweetener, even without a sense of taste.

The answer to this riddle lied much further down in the digestive tract, at the upper end of the gut just after the stomach, according to Bohorquez.

In a paper which appeared on January 13 in 'Nature Neuroscience', Bohorquez said, "we've identified the cells that make us eat sugar, and they are in the gut." Infusing sugar directly into the lower intestine or colon does not have the same effect. The sensing cells are in the upper reaches of the gut, he said. **IANS**

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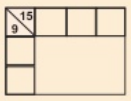
SOLVE IT IN A MINUTE

What is the angle in degrees between the minute hand and the hour hand at exactly 11:56? (Hint: At 11:56 the hour hand points slightly before 12.)

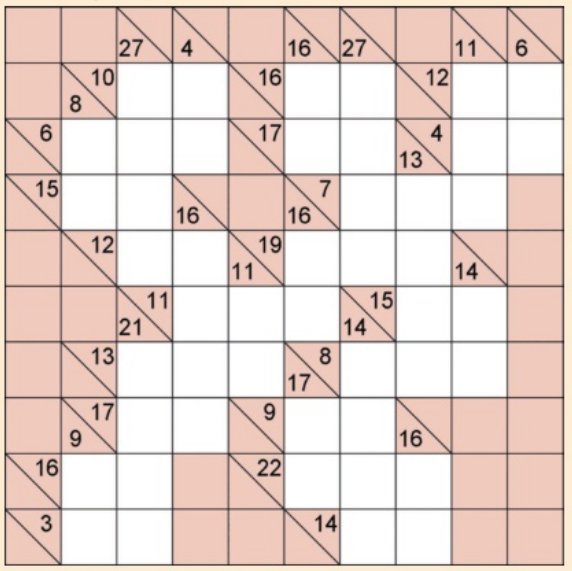
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

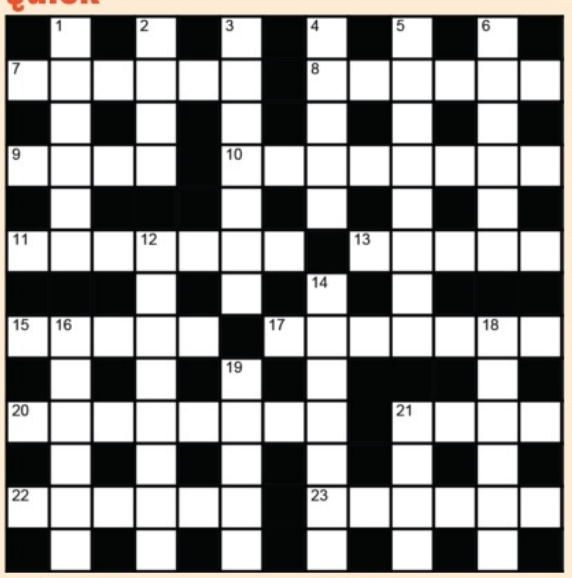


for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

7 Keen for action, combat (4-2)
8 Philatelists collect them (6)
9 Bodily troubles (4)
10 Brothers (archaic); fellow members (8)
11 A bandit or an outlaw (7)
13 Deathly pale (5)
15 Evident (5)
17 Appreciates or perceives the taste of ? (7)
20 City in Nevada (3,5)
21 A lot (4)
22 Relied on for support (6)
23 Bahamas capital (6)

DOWN

1 Less bright? (6)
2 ___ on : incites (4)
3 Weeping convulsively (7)
4 Donkeys (5)
5 Exaggerated masculinity (8)
6 Round body (6)
12 Lamenting a personal loss (8)
14 Korean electronics giant (7)
16 Like some questions (6)
18 Catwalk (6)
19 Festival that marks the beginning of the Kannada new year (5)
21 Pravda's provider (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: A EQUALS T

AVP ALGAV AVMA DMUPB DPW SLPP JB SIL AVP DIBA XMLA AVP ALGAV HVJKV DPW XLPSPL WIA AI VPML.

Linemaro

Please tell me you're single!

Mindchow

Golf is so popular simply because it is the best game in the world at which to be bad

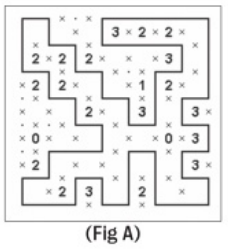
Joke of the day

In Europe & America: You can kiss in public but not piss in public. In India & Pakistan: You can piss in public but not kiss in public

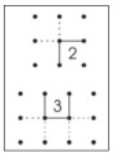
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)

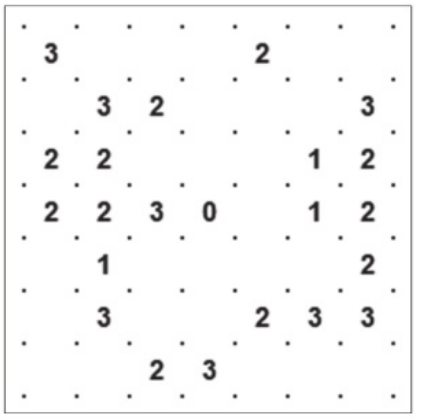


(Fig B) Not Allowed

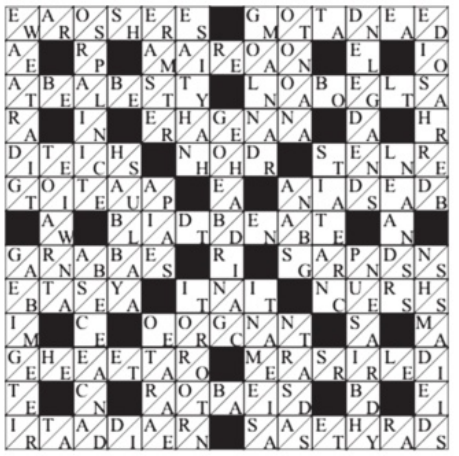
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



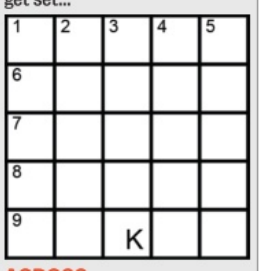
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

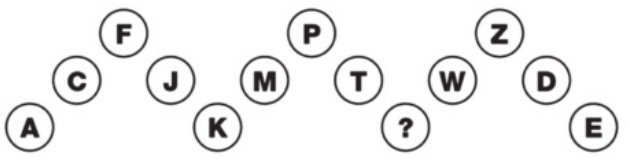
1 Mt Ass; 6 Up NIH; 7 Toles; 8 Do ere; 9 Drake

DOWN

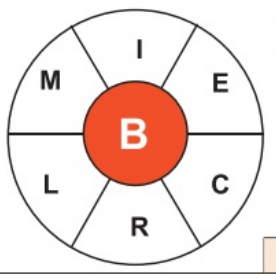
1 Serum; 2 A rant; 3 Hooks; 4 Tiled; 5 Deeps

Mensapuzzle

Which letter completes the puzzle?



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

06 Average; **07** Good; **09** Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

		8	6		1	2		
1			9	7	3			6
	3						4	
	5	4				9	1	
				8				
	8	6				5	3	
	6						2	
3			5	6	2			4
		5	1		4	6		

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 1
3 6 7 9

Medium = 7
1 3 4 6

Hard = 24
3 6 8 6

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

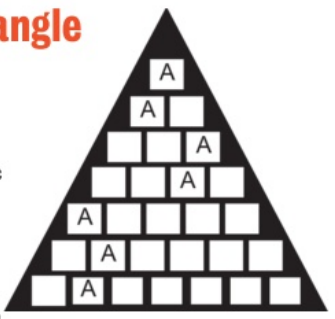
Differences: 1. Hive is reversed. 2. Thermos is smaller. 3. Collar is missing. 4. Cap is different. 5. Car bumper is missing. 6. Sleeve is shorter.

Riddler

On the wing, the breeze seduced me. Newly born to take my flight. From the darkness I did rupture. From my prison, wrapped up tight. Come to rest on petals of brightness All can see, my change is cast. I flutter by in paper lightness. And my species, they are vast. Darwin wrote of my pure beauty. I'm collected, caught in nets. Forever free to dance my duty. Never kept as pets. What am I?

Alpha triangle

1 First letter
2 Avenue, abbr.
3 By way of
4 Medicine bottle
5 Be of use to
6 European republic
7 Heroic

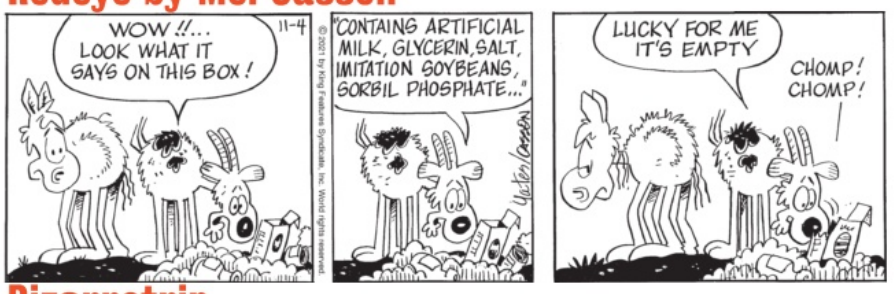


Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

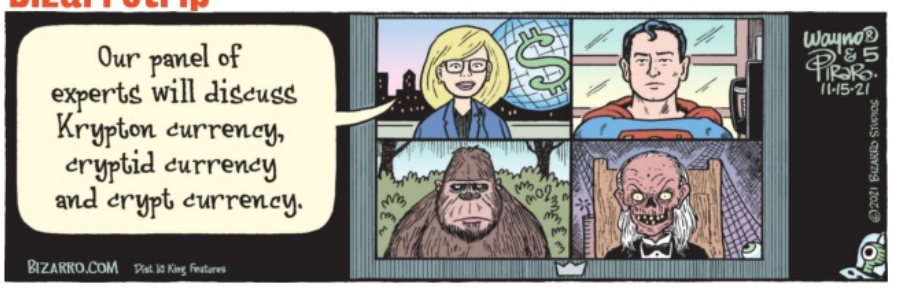
DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson


WOW!!... LOOK WHAT IT SAYS ON THIS BOX!
"CONTAINS ARTIFICIAL MILK, GLYCERIN, SALT, IMITATION SOYBEANS, SORBIL PHOSPHATE..."
LUCKY FOR ME IT'S EMPTY
CHOMP! CHOMP!

Bizarrotrip


Our panel of experts will discuss Krypton currency, cryptid currency and crypt currency.
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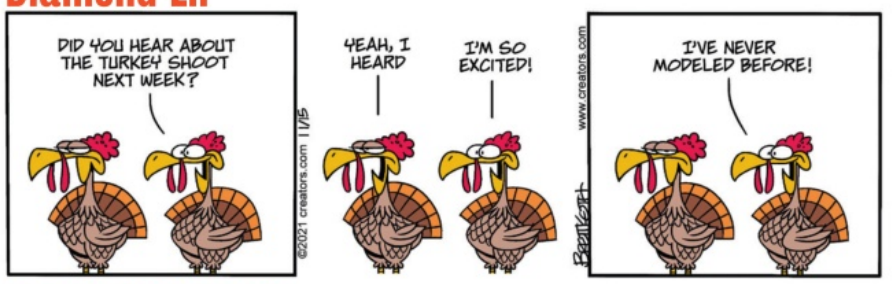
Diamond Lil



Hart of the city

JUST BE CAREFUL AT THAT PARTY. YOU DON'T WANT TO GET LOST IN THE SAUCE OF POPULAR KIDS.
WHAT SAUCE?
IT'S JUST AN EXPRESSION. LIKE UH... DRINKING THE KOOL-AID.
WELL, I DON'T KNOW WHAT THE MEAN IS AT THIS PARTY, CHARLOTTE.
NEVER MIND.

Crankshaft

WELL, MISS KNOW-IT-ALL... YOU SAID THE INSURANCE COMPANY WOULD TURN DOWN MY CLAIM FOR SETTING THE TREE ON FIRE.
BUT THEY DIDN'T!
REALLY?
NO... THEY CANCELED OUR COVERAGE INSTEAD!

Mutts

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, with the help of blessings, you may control your indecisiveness. Kids' health is better now. Your colleagues may be supportive of your work, which will convert into success in terms of a project. You may expect to get some incentives with the salary. Natives related to dairy, water projects, grains, homemaker, art and culture may do good.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today, you may plan to migrate from your current place to another. It is advised to think twice before making decisions regarding migration or change of place. You may also plan a change of job. There will be peace of mind. But your kids' health may make you upset. It is advised to avoid speculation in the investments. Love birds shall keep patience before making an important decision in terms of marriage.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today, you may have good patience. Meditation may help you to increase concentration, which may help to speed up your project. Your subordinates may cooperate with you; it may help you to complete the project before the timeline. You may go on a short work trip. An influential person may help you boost your network.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today, you may be busy with family get-togethers and social events. You may become polite with the people around you, which may increase your prestige among them. You may spend money in buying some artefacts or household stuff, which may improve your social status. You are likely to hear some good news from one of your relatives.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today, you will be busy with family get-togethers. You may re-establish your network, which will give you benefits in the near future. Natives related to glamour, art, fashions, films and media may plan to do something new in terms of their profession. Students may perform better today in terms of study. Love birds may enjoy their happy moments.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today, you may be busy on the work front, which may make you mentally tired, which may affect your daily routine. You may be able to create some overseas networks. You should be careful in terms of investments. Natives in the job may get a promotion.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today, the situation is under control now. Your destiny may be with you in terms of gains in past investments. You may get some rewards for your hard work. Projects that were stopped without a reason may be reinitiated. You may expect peaceful religious travel. You may also plan to donate some money to a religious place or to some charity .

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today, your moon is not positive; you may have health issues. You may face losses in the business or in past investment. it is advised not to invest into business. Your gains will convert into losses. So, you are advised to stop making investments in worthless objects. You should avoid being involved in controversies, otherwise it will pull you down negatively.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today is good for your work; you may be able to perform well. Your boss may give you some new responsibility in terms of promotions. Disputes with the partner may settle down. You may lend money on assets. Your kids' health may get better now. You are likely to make investments for kids' futures.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today, you may be blessed by the moon. Love will be in the air in terms of personal life. Singles may find a suitable match. You may do better in your professional life. Your friends and subordinate staff may support you. Investments in gems and jewellery may give positive gains in the near future. You should be careful of your elders' health.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
You may be happy due to the blessing from an auspicious planetary combination. You may have some sort of energy which may create your prestige among people around you. You may spend your time studying intellectual stuff.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today, the start of the day may be dull. After late evening, you may control negativity. New people may connect you in the work front. With the help of new people, you may try to revamp your business plans. It is advised to read documents before putting your signature.

KIDZONE

Yashvarohan, 5 Years, Delhi Public School

Sital Prasad Majhi, 10 Years, New Oxford Public School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
MH = minute hand
HH = hour hand
In 60 min MH moves 360°
In 60 min HH moves 30°
1 min=6°
In 4 min MH = 4*6° = 24°
In 4 min HH = 4*.5° = 2°
24° – 2° = 22°

RIDDLER A butterfly

FAST FIVE

R	A	K	E	D
E	R	O	D	E
S	T	O	L	E
U	N	H	I	P
M	A	S	T	S

BULL'S EYE
bier, bile, brie, brim, climb, CLIMBER, crib, limb, limber

STRIKE OUT

W	A	S	H	E	S	M	O	A	N	E	D			
		E	P		A	A	R	O	N		E	I		
	A	B	L	E	S	T		L	A	B	E	L	S	
	R		I		E	A	G	A	N		D		H	
	I	T		C	H		N	O	R		T	E	L	E
T	I	E	U	P		A		A	I	D	E	D		
I		C		O	R	G	A	N		A		A		
G	H	E	T	T	O		M	A	R	R	E	D		
E	A	S	Y		T	N	T		N	E	S	H		
G	R	A	B	S		I		S	A	N	D	S		
	A		B	A	D	D	E	B	T		A			
P	L	A	I	N		S	A	V	O	U	R	S		
B	R	I	G	A	N	D		A	S	H	E	N		
		E			I		S							
I	L	L	S		B	R	E	T	H	R	E	N		
	L		G		B		S		C		H			
G	U	N	G	H	O		S	T	A	M	P	S		
	D		E			A		M			S			

QUICK

GUOTE UNCODE
The truth that makes men free is for the most part the truth which men prefer not to hear.
U. Starting on the left, and moving along the line to the right, letters follow the alphabetic sequence. In steps of 1,2,3 and then 4, before repeating the sequence.

MENSA PUZZLE

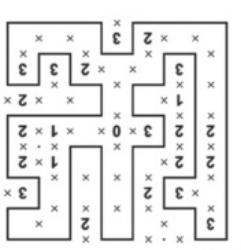
1	4	2	9	7	3	8	5	6
6	3	9	2	5	8	7	4	1
7	5	4	3	2	6	9	1	8
9	1	3	7	8	5	4	6	2
2	8	6	4	1	9	5	3	7
4	6	1	8	9	7	3	2	5
3	9	7	5	6	2	1	8	4
8	2	5	1	3	4	6	9	7

SUDOKU

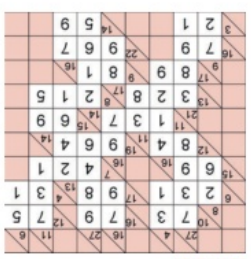
ALPHA TRIANGLE
A, AV, VIA, VIAL, AVAIL, LATVIA, VALIANT.

GO FIGURE
Easy
7 – 3 + 6 – 9 = 1
Medium
3 x 4 – 6 + 1 = 7
Hard
6 – 6 + 8 x 3 = 24

LOOP



KAKURO



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Film festival postponed – The 26th International Film Festival of Kerala has been postponed by the state government because of the current covid situation in the state

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Sonal to get on board 'The Ghost' train?

Jannat fame Sonal Chauhan will reportedly play the lead opposite superstar Akkineni Nagarjuna in 'The Ghost' film.

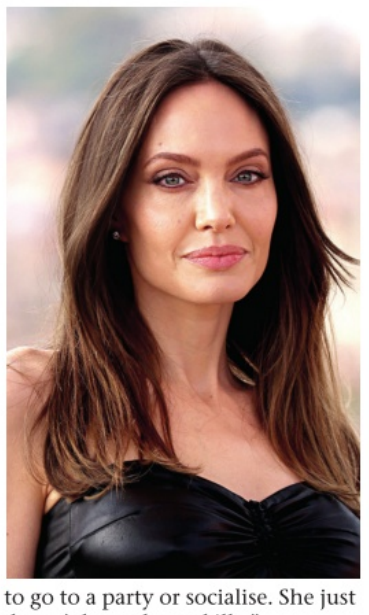
A source close to the film said, "Makers felt Sonal Chauhan was the best fit for the lead role opposite Nagarjuna in The Ghost. They felt both the actors Sonal and Nagarjuna would make for a fine on screen pair and that's when they approached her. The two are definitely going to portray some great chemistry in the film."

Initially, Kajal Agarwal was supposed to play the lead. However, she walked out of the project as she is expecting her first baby.

Then makers got Jacqueline Fernandez on board, but later she exited the project due to unknown reasons.

—ANI

Angelina says her 'Eternals' character is a troubled soul



Hollywood star Angelina Jolie, who essays the role of Thena in Chloe Zhao's superhero film 'Eternals', describes her character as someone who is not very comfortable during peace time and this trait emanates from the moral injury of the character.

Due to her special ability to manipulate cosmic energy to augment her life force which grants her virtual invulnerability and immortality, Thena is known for being a social misfit. Commenting on this, Angelina says, "Thena is like a soldier who is affected by the memories of battle and has PTSD or moral injury to live with. Thena just assumes that a fight's coming at her rather than care and kindness."

Talking about the complexities of her character, Angelina says, "So she's quite wired, and a lot of her struggle is just holding on to her mind and her center and her peace. I understand her, and how she feels."

She adds, "Thena is not comfortable in peace time. She doesn't know how to exist as a civilian or as a lover or as a friend, but she does know war. She knows who she is in combat. But she doesn't know how to go to a party or socialise. She just doesn't have those skills."

The film, which features an ensemble of Salma Hayek, Kit Harington, Gemma Chan, Richard Madden and Kumail Nanjiani, is available to stream on Disney+ Hotstar in English, Hindi, Tamil, Telugu, Kannada, and Malayalam.

—IANS

The story matters to Ashish Verma the most

Actor Ashish Verma says in every project, his priority is always the story and what message it conveys to the audience. He has appeared in Ayushman Khurrana-starrer 'Article 15', 'Bhavesh Joshi Superhero', 'Haseen Dillruba', 'Helmet', 'Atrangi Re', web series 'The Whistleblower' and upcoming 'Unpaused: Naya Safar'.

In conversation with IANS, Ashish shares how on one hand post the release of 'Atrangi Re' people started recognising him more; on the other hand, his focus on choosing any project is based on the story. Ashish said: "Now that the audience has become more receptive towards stories that matter, now that reality and relatability has become an important factor for any format of stories, be it film or web series - I think it is our time to also focus on the same. For me, it is never the length of my role but the importance of the story mattered."

Birju Maharaj: February 4, 1938 - January 17, 2022

The angel departs

Actors pay homage to legend, mourn loss to world of performing arts

Actors-political personalities Kamal Haasan and Hema Malini, as well as Hindi film stars Kareena Kapoor Khan and Madhuri Dixit-Nene on Monday mourned the loss of legendary Kathak exponent Birju Maharaj, calling his passing away the "end of an era" for Indian classical dance.

Maharaj-ji, as he was popularly known, died at his home in New Delhi in the early hours of Monday. He would have been 84 next month.

According to his granddaughter, Ragini Maharaj, the Kathak maestro died surrounded by his family and disciples. They were playing 'antakshari' after dinner when he suddenly fell ill.

The Kathak exponent had been suffering from a kidney ailment and was under dialysis treatment. He probably died of a cardiac arrest, his granddaughter said.

Dixit-Nene, who trained under Birju Maharaj and most memorably performed "Devdas" song 'Kaahe chhede mohe' under his guidance, shared a picture of the duo on Instagram and wrote, "There never was anyone like you guruji and there will never be".

The actor described him as a legend with a "child-like innocence".

"He was my guru but also my friend. He taught me the intricacies of dance and 'Abhinay' but never failed to make me laugh at his funny anecdotes. He has left behind grieving fans and students but also left a legacy we will all carry forward. Thank you Maharajji for everything you taught me in dance along with humility, elegance and grace," she wrote.

Birju Maharaj, one of India's most loved and well-known artistes, was instrumental in taking the traditional Indian dance form to the world.

Haasan, who trained under him for the song 'Unnai Kanadhu' from his 2013 spy thriller "Vishwaroopam", remembered him as an "unparalleled dancer".

The Kathak legend was honoured with the National Film Award for best choreography for the song.

In her post on Instagram, actor Shilpa Shetty Kundra paid tributes to the maestro's "illustrious legacy".

"Padma Vibhushan Pandit Birju Maharaj ji's passing is a tremendous loss to the world of performing arts. May Pandit ji's family & followers find peace and strength to cope with this huge loss," she wrote.

Actor Anushka Sharma also shared a photograph of the legend on her Instagram Story, with the folded hands and heartbreak emoticon.

Alia Bhatt took to Instagram and recalled how she had trained under Birju Maharaj for the song 'Ghar More Pardesiya' from the 2019 drama "Kalank" and called it one of her most creatively satisfying experiences. "Had the honour and privilege of spending three full days with Pandit Birju Maharaj in 2018 while I was prepping for Ghar More Pardesiya. I will never forget all that he has taught me. It was possibly one of the most creative and fulfilling experiences that I have ever had.

Among the newer actors, Janhvi Kapoor and Ananya Panday remembered Birju Maharaj.

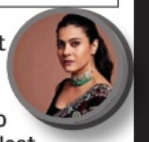
—PTI

My guru He was my guru but also my friend. He taught me the intricacies of dance and 'Abhinay' but never failed to make me laugh. He has left behind grieving students but also a legacy

–Madhuri Dixit-Nene

Won't forget Had the honour of spending three days with Pandit Birju Maharaj in 2018 ... I will never forget all that he has taught me. It was one of the most creative experiences I have ever had

–Alia Bhatt



Priceless Pandit Birju Maharaj was a legend and an absolute wonder to watch... The world lost something priceless today. Rest In Peace, my deepest condolences to his family

–Kajol

A void This is a huge loss to the nation. With him passing away, the league of stars has ended. He took away a lot with him. . He came here like an angel from the heaven, made us feel like heaven on earth with his art

–Anup Jalota